UNITED
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General Assembly

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A/46/L.46
10 December 1991

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Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 75

QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION

Poland: amendment to draft resolution B recommended by the Special Political Committee (A/46/641, para. 22)

1. Draft resolution B, operative paragraph 1

After subparagraph (1), insert the following new subparagraph (m)

(m) Requests the Secretary-General to implement paragraph 37 of resolution 39/97 A and paragraph 48 of resolution 40/164 A on the opening of the United Nations Information Centre in Warsaw, taking into account the substantial financial contribution of the Government of the Republic of Poland towards the establishment and functioning of this Centre;.

2. The subsequent subparagraphs should be relettered accordingly.

91-48517 4035Z (E)

UNITED NATIONS

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Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 92

ELIMINATION OF RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia, (Federated States of), Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft resolution

The General Assembly

Decides to revoke the determination contained in its resolution 3379 (XXX) of 10 November 1975.

91-48925 4055Z (E)

UNITED
NATIONS

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A/46/L.47/Add.1
16 December 1991

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Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 92

ELIMINATION OF RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft resolution

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution

Belarus, Burundi, Central African Republic, Cyprus, Gambia, Grenada, Guyana, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

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91-41881 4102Z (E)

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12 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 98 (a)

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

Norway: draft resolution

Declaration on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights constitute the first all-embracing and legally-binding international treaties in the field of human rights,

Recalling on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Covenants, the fundamental importance and special status of these basic human rights instruments of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the importance of the observance and effective implementation of the universally recognized standards in the field of human rights as contained in the Covenants,

Solemnly declares that acceptance of the international Covenants on Human Rights contributes greatly to the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and urges all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1/ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1/ and to consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the latter at the earliest moment.

1/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI).

91-48947 4050Z (E)

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13 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 98 (a)

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

Norway: draft resolution

Declaration on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights constitute the first all-embracing and legally-binding international treaties in the field of human rights,

Recalling on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Covenants, the fundamental importance and special status of these basic human rights instruments of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the importance of the observance and effective implementation of the universally recognized standards in the field of human rights as contained in the Covenants,

Solemnly declares that acceptance of the international Covenants on Human Rights contributes greatly to the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and urges all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1/ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1/ and to consider acceding to the Optional Protocols to the latter at the earliest moment.

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

1/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI).

91-49234 4059Z (E)

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A/46/L.49
12 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 35

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Oman, Sudan and Viet Nam: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Having discussed the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Recalling its resolutions 36/226 A and B of 17 December 1981, ES-9/1 of 5 February 1982, 37/123 F of 20 December 1982, 38/58 A to E of 13 December 1983, 38/180 A to D of 19 December 1983, 39/146 A to C of 14 December 1984, 40/168 A to C of 16 December 1985, 41/162 A to C of 4 December 1986, 42/209 A to D of 11 December 1987, 43/51 A to C of 6 December 1988, 44/40 A to C of 4 December 1989, 45/83 A to C of 13 December 1990 and 45/68 of 6 December 1990,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981, 508 (1982) of 5 June 1982, 509 (1982) of 6 June 1982, 701 (1991) of 31 July 1991 and other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General of 22 October 1991, 1/ 8 November 1991 2/ and 15 November 1991, 3/

Reaffirming the need for continued collective support for the decisions adopted by the Twelfth Arab Summit Conference, held at Fez, Morocco, on

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1/ A/46/586.

2/ A/46/623-S/23204 and Corr.1.

3/ A/46/652-S/23225.

25 November 1981 and from 6 to 9 September 1982, 4/ which were confirmed by subsequent Arab summit conferences, including the Extraordinary Arab Summit Conference held at Casablanca, Morocco, from 23 to 26 May 1989,

Reiterating its previous resolutions on the question of Palestine and its support for the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people,

Welcoming all efforts contributing towards the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people through the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, in accordance with the United Nations resolutions relating to the question of Palestine and to the situation in the Middle East, including Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973,

Welcoming also the world-wide support extended to the just cause of the Palestinian people and the other Arab countries in their struggle against Israeli aggression and occupation in order to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East and the full exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable national rights, as affirmed by previous resolutions of the General Assembly on the question of Palestine and on the situation in the Middle East,

Gravely concerned that the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories still remain under Israeli occupation, that the relevant resolutions of the United Nations have not been implemented and that the Palestinian people is still denied the restoration of its land and the exercise of its inalienable national rights in conformity with international law, as reaffirmed by resolutions of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 5/ to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories,

Reaffirming also all relevant United Nations resolutions which stipulate that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law and that Israel must withdraw unconditionally from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories,

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4/ See A/37/696-S/15510, annex. For the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1982, document S/15510, annex.

5/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

Gravely concerned also at Israeli policies involving the escalation and expansion of the conflict in the region, which further violate the principles of international law and endanger international peace and security,

Reaffirming further the imperative necessity and urgency of establishing a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region, based on full respect for the Charter and the principles of international law,

1. Reaffirms its conviction that the question of Palestine is the core of the conflict in the Middle East and that no comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region will be achieved without the full exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable national rights and the immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories;

2. Reaffirms that a just and comprehensive settlement of the situation in the Middle East cannot be achieved without the participation on an equal footing of all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people;

3. Declares once more that peace in the Middle East is indivisible and must be based on a comprehensive, just and lasting solution of the Middle East problem under the auspices of the United Nations and on the basis of its relevant resolutions, which ensures the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories, and which enables the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to exercise its inalienable rights, including the right to return and the right to self-determination, national independence and the establishment of its independent sovereign State in Palestine, in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations relating to the question of Palestine, in particular General Assembly resolutions ES/7/2 of 29 July 1980, 36/120 A to F of 10 December 1981, 37/86 A to D of 10 December 1982, 37/86 E of 20 December 1982, 38/58 A to E of 13 December 1983, 39/49 A to D of 11 December 1984, 40/96 A to D of 12 December 1985, 41/43 A to D of 2 December 1986, 42/66 A to D of 2 December 1987, 43/54 A to C of 6 December 1988, and 43/175 A to C, 43/176, 43/177 of 15 December 1988, 44/42 of 6 December 1989 and 45/68 of 6 December 1990;

4. Considers the Arab peace plan adopted unanimously at the Twelfth Arab Summit Conference, held at Fez, Morocco, on 25 November 1981 and from 6 to 9 September 1982, 5/ which was confirmed by subsequent Arab summit conferences, including the Extraordinary Arab Summit Conference held at Casablanca, Morocco, from 23 to 26 May 1989, as an important contribution towards the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people through the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

5. Condemns Israel's continued occupation of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab

territories, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and demands the immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of Israel from all the territories occupied since 1967;

6. Rejects all agreements and arrangements which violate the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and contradict the principles of a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem to ensure the establishment of a just peace in the area;

7. Deplores Israel's failure to comply with Security Council resolutions 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980 and 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980 and General Assembly resolutions 35/207 of 16 December 1980 and 36/226 A and B of 17 December 1981; determines that Israel's decision to annex Jerusalem and to declare it as its "capital" as well as the measures to alter its physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and status are null and void and demands that they be rescinded immediately, and calls upon all Member States, the specialized agencies and all other international organizations to abide by the present resolution and all other relevant resolutions and decisions;

8. Condemns Israel's aggression, policies and practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory and outside this territory, including expropriation, establishment of settlements, annexation and other aggressive and repressive measures, which are in violation of the Charter and the principles of international law and the relevant international conventions;

9. Strongly condemns the imposition by Israel of its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, its annexationist policies and practices, the establishment of settlements, the confiscation of lands, the diversion of water resources and the imposition of Israeli citizenship on Syrian nationals, and declares that all these measures are null and void and constitute a violation of the rules and principles of international law relative to belligerent occupation, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

10. Calls upon all States not to provide Israel with any assistance to be used specifically in connection with settlements in the occupied territories;

11. Strongly deplores the continuing and increasing collaboration between Israel and South Africa, especially in the economic, military and nuclear fields, which constitutes a hostile act against the African and Arab States and enables Israel to enhance its nuclear capabilities;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council periodically on the development of the situation and to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a comprehensive report covering the developments in the Middle East pertaining to the present resolution.

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General Assembly

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A/46/L.49/Add.1
16 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 35

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Oman, Sudan and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution

Afghanistan, Cuba, and Malaysia

91-41887 4101Z (E)

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Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 35

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Algeria, Guyana, Morocco, Oman, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic and Viet Nam: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Having discussed the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 15 November 1991, 1/

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, the latest of which being resolution 45/83 B of 13 December 1990,

Recalling its resolution 3314 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974, in which it defined an act of aggression, inter alia, as "the invasion or attack by the armed forces of a State of the territory of another State, or any military occupation, however temporary, resulting from such invasion or attack, or any annexation by the use of force of the territory of another State or part thereof" and provided that "no consideration of whatever nature, whether political, economic, military or otherwise, may serve as a justification for aggression",

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

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1/ A/46/652-S/23225.

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 2/ to Syrian occupied Golan, and the occupied Palestinian territories since 1967,

Noting that Israel has refused, in violation of Article 25 of the Charter of the United Nations to accept and carry out the numerous relevant decisions of the Security Council, in particular resolution 497 (1981),

Taking note with satisfaction of the convening of the Madrid Peace Conference, held from 30 October to 1 November 1991,

1. Declares that Israel has so far failed to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981) and relevant General Assembly resolutions;

2. Declares once more that Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is illegal and therefore null and void and has no validity whatsoever;

3. Declares that the Knesset resolution of 11 November 1991, annexing the occupied Syrian Golan, constitutes a grave violation of Security Council resolution 497 (1981) and is therefore null and void and has no validity whatsoever;

4. Declares all Israeli policies and practices of, or aimed at, annexation of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and of the other occupied Arab territories to be illegal and in violation of international law and of the relevant United Nations resolutions;

5. Reaffirms once more that all actions taken by Israel to give effect to its decision relating to the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and invalid and shall not be recognized;

6. Reaffirms its determination that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 1907, 3/ and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 2/ continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under these instruments in all circumstances;

7. Determines once more that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan since 1967 and its annexation by Israel on 14 December 1981, following Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on that territory, constitute a continuing threat to peace and security in the region;

2/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

3/ See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907 (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

8. Calls for the halt of any political, economic, financial, military and technological support to Israel that encourages it to commit acts of aggression and to consolidate and perpetuate its occupation and annexation of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan;

9. Firmly emphasizes once more its demand that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its illegal decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Syrian Golan, which resulted in the de facto annexation of that territory;

10. Expresses its satisfaction for the convening of the Madrid Peace Conference on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) to achieve a comprehensive and just peaceful settlement in the region;

11. Calls upon all Member States to put an end to the flow to Israel of any military, economic, financial and technological aid, as well as human resources, aimed at prolonging Israeli occupation of the Arab territories or encouraging Israel to pursue its expansionist policy against the Arab countries and the Palestinian people;

12. Calls upon the specialized agencies and other international organizations to conform their relations with Israel to the terms of the present resolution;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

UNITED
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12 December 1991

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Agenda item 35

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Algeria, Egypt, Guyana, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/120 E of 10 December 1981, 37/123 C of 16 December 1982, 38/180 C of 19 December 1983, 39/146 C of 14 December 1984, 40/168 C of 16 December 1985, 41/162 C of 4 December 1986, 42/209 D of 11 December 1987, 43/54 C of 6 December 1988, 44/40 C of 6 December 1989 and 45/83 C of 13 December 1990, in which it determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which had altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling Security Council resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" and called upon those States that had established diplomatic missions at Jerusalem to withdraw such missions from the Holy City,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 22 October 1991, 1/

1/ A/46/586.

1. Determines that Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem is illegal and therefore null and void and has no validity whatsoever;

2. Deplores the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980), and their refusal to comply with the provisions of that resolution;

3. Calls once more upon those States to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 35

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Algeria, Egypt, Guyana, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia: draft resolution

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution

Afghanistan, Bahrain, Cuba, Indonesia, Malaysia and Pakistan

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NATIONS

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16 December 1991

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Agenda item 98

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Cuba: amendment to draft resolution XX recommended by the Third Committee (A/46/721, para. 102)

Delete operative paragraph 12.

91-49567 2838h (E)

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16 December 1991

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Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 21

CRITICAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IN AFRICA

Norway: amendments to section II of the annex to the draft resolution recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly on the Review and Appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 (A/46/41, para. 23)

1. Paragraphs 25 and 26 should be modified to read as follows:

"25. At the London Summit in July 1991, the Group of 7 major industrialized countries agreed that Africa deserved special attention. Participants called for additional debt relief measures in favour of the poorest, most indebted countries, that go well beyond the Toronto terms.

"26. Recognizing the magnitude of Africa's debt problem, the measures envisioned by this new Agenda could include:

"(a) A further cancellation or reduction of official development assistance (ODA) debt and debt service;

"(b) Additional relief for official bilateral debt or debt service;

"(c) Encouragement of the write-off of private commercial debt and the use of such techniques as debt-equity swaps, the use of debt where appropriate for the establishment of export-oriented joint ventures, debt buy-backs, debt for environment schemes and debt for poverty alleviation through greater use of the appropriate facilities;

"(d) Serious consideration to continuing to work towards a grant-oriented solution of the problems of African developing countries with serious debt-servicing problems, including those who debt is mainly to official creditors or to multilateral institutions;

"(e) Early implementation of the IMF quota increase under the Ninth General Review and the associated Third Amendment to the Articles of Agreement;"

2. Original subparagraph (f) of paragraph 26 should be made new paragraph 27 and should read as follows:

"27. Additional measures should take into account the need for Africa to benefit from new financial flows, particularly ODA.

3. Original paragraphs 27 to 47 should be renumbered accordingly.

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A/46/L.54
17 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 82

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Ireland: draft resolution

Operational activities of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of its resolutions 2688 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975, 32/197 of 20 December 1977, 42/196 of 11 December 1987, 44/211 of 22 December 1989, S-18/3 of 1 May 1990 and 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening the operational activities for development of the United Nations system in accordance with the above resolutions,

Reaffirming that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universality, their voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and multilateralism, and their ability to respond to the needs and concerns of the developing countries, at their request and in accordance with their development plans, priorities and objectives,

Noting with concern that progress in implementing parts of its resolution 44/211 has been disappointing, and stressing the need for more vigorous efforts to implement the resolution in areas in which the implementation has been unsatisfactory,

Recognizing the need to give guidance to the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation in the preparation of the report for the next triennial policy review of operational activities,

1. Takes note of the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation on operational activities of the United Nations system; 1/

2. Reaffirms the importance of its resolution 44/211 and the need for coordinated and full implementation of the resolution by the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, taking into account the interrelationships among issues;

3. Also reaffirms the principal responsibility of Governments in managing programmes and projects supported by the United Nations system;

4. Takes note of decision 91/32 on support costs successor arrangements, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on 25 June 1991; 2/

5. Calls upon the international community, in particular donor countries, for a real and significant increase in resources for operational activities for development on a continuous, predictable and assured basis, and urges all countries to increase their voluntary contributions for operational activities for development;

6. Urges developed countries, in particular those countries whose overall performance is not commensurate with their capacity, taking into account established official development assistance targets, including targets established at the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 3/ and present levels of contribution, to substantially increase their official development assistance, including contributions to the operational activities of the United Nations system;

7. Takes note of decision 91/27 on national execution, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on 21 June 1991; 2/

8. Stresses that the national execution modality should be the norm for programmes and projects funded by the United Nations system, taking into account the needs and capacities of developing countries;

9. Also stresses the principal responsibility of developing countries in determining their capacity to execute programmes and projects funded by the United Nations system;

1/ A/46/206-E/1991/93 and Add.1-4.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34), annex I.

3/ See A/CONF.147/Misc.9.

10. Calls upon the United Nations system to simplify the rules and procedures for national execution within the framework of enhanced accountability, particularly in order to minimize the Governments' administrative burden and the costs of managing projects and programmes;

11. Also calls upon the organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to assist developing countries, at their request, in developing their multisectoral, sectoral and subsectoral strategies, which should provide a framework for coordinated and coherent programming, and stresses the need to enhance the coherence of the response of the United Nations system to these strategies;

12. Reaffirms the continued validity of the resident coordinator system as detailed in the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and the urgent need to strengthen the effectiveness of the resident coordinator system;

13. Also reaffirms the need to improve cooperation between individual agencies at the field level;

14. Calls upon the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to utilize existing capacities to enhance the participation of nationals in projects and programmes;

15. Welcomes the proposal of the Director-General to undertake a feasibility study on a coordinated strategy of training for United Nations staff members and national officials involved in operational activities, and requests him to submit the study, with his recommendations, to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

16. Urges the agencies of the United Nations system to continue and expand, within existing resources, their joint training programmes for United Nations country teams, and urges that these programmes be expanded to the country level and include Government officials;

17. Reaffirms the importance of the triennial policy review of operational activities to be undertaken by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, which should build on and, where necessary, elaborate further the elements of its resolution 44/211;

18. Requests the Director-General to include in his triennial policy review a report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/211 and recommendations on programming with particular emphasis on the following:

(a) The harmonization and adaptation of the programme cycles of all funding agencies of the United Nations system to the planning periods of national Governments, and further consideration to the introduction of budgetary cycles on a rolling-cycle basis;

(b) The simplification of procedures relating to project formulation, appraisals, monitoring and evaluation, taking into account the need to focus on the impact and sustainability of projects and programmes;

(c) The improvement of programme evaluation and management audit systems, including the need for impact evaluation, with a view to assessing the efficiency, impact and sustainability of projects and programmes;

19. Requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review a further analysis of the concept of and recommendations on the integrated operational response of the United Nations system;

20. Also requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review, in consultation with recipient Governments and donors, an assessment and analysis of the progress made in the shift from a project to a programme approach, bearing in mind, inter alia, the work being carried out by the United Nations Development Programme in this regard;

21. Further requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review, measures already taken and proposals for decentralization of capacity and authority to the country level, including budgetary flexibility, rationalization of functions between headquarters and field offices, combined with enhanced accountability, taking into account, inter alia, negotiations and decisions relating to the project cycle, procurement of equipment, provision of training and recruitment of personnel;

22. Requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review, in consultation with recipient Governments and donors, an analysis of the progress made on and recommendations to promote further national execution, taking into account, in particular:

(a) Experience in utilizing national capacities and ways of promoting national participation in projects and programmes so as to maximize national capacity-building and to meet country-specific needs;

(b) Identification of systemic and institutional obstacles and disincentives in the operational activities for development of the United Nations system which impede the full implementation of national execution;

(c) Harmonization and simplification of procedures, aiming at a higher degree of transparency, and their adaptation to the needs of the developing countries;

(d) Improving accountability through training and development in national monitoring capacity, as well as in auditing and financial reporting;

(e) Ways of reorienting the technical capacity of the United Nations system to meet the needs identified by the developing countries, including measures in the areas of policy, technical support and the provision of information including access to databases of the United Nations system;

23. Also requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review recommendations to strengthen the field representation of the United Nations system, with particular emphasis on the following:

(a) The team leadership role of the resident coordinator, including an assessment of the impact of the existing set of guidelines and recommendations for the strengthening of this role;

(b) The development of the capacity of the United Nations system at the country level to provide technical and substantive support to developing countries, inter alia through the establishment of multidisciplinary teams to meet country-specific needs;

24. Stresses, in the context of the triennial review, the need for a well-defined but flexible management process to guide the implementation of key measures in enhancing the effectiveness of operational activities;

25. Requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review an assessment of progress made in achieving common premises and to propose a plan for the full achievement of this objective, where feasible, appropriate and without any additional costs to developing countries;

26. Also requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review an assessment of and appropriate recommendations on the contribution of the operational activities of the United Nations system to the enhancement of national capacities of developing countries in the field of science and technology;

27. Reaffirms the importance of human development, and requests the Director-General to include in his report for the triennial policy review an assessment of and appropriate recommendations for strengthening the support given by the operational activities of the United Nations system at the request of developing countries, to sectors vital for human development;

28. Also requests the Director-General to include in his updated statistical report innovative and concrete recommendations to increase substantially procurement from developing countries, paying due respect to the principles of international competitive bidding while acknowledging the commitment to procurement from underutilized major donor countries in accordance with the principles of international competitive bidding, taking into account the standardization and compatibility needs of developing countries;

29. Requests the Secretary-General to make available to the Office of the Director-General the necessary resources, within the overall level for the biennium 1992-1993, to enable it to discharge its responsibilities in the implementation of the present resolution and General Assembly resolution 44/211;

30. Requests the executive heads of United Nations organs, organizations and bodies to cooperate fully with the Director-General and provide him with all necessary assistance, including secondment on a non-reimbursable basis, to enable him to prepare an action-oriented report.

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Agenda item 143

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Sweden: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2816 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971, and its subsequent resolutions and decisions on humanitarian assistance, including its resolution 45/100 of 14 December 1990,

Recalling also its resolution 44/236 of 22 December 1989, the annex to which contains the International Framework of Action for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,

Deeply concerned about the suffering of the victims of disasters and emergency situations, the loss in human lives, the flow of refugees, the mass displacement of people and the material destruction,

Mindful of the need to strengthen further and make more effective the collective efforts of the international community, in particular the United Nations system, in providing humanitarian assistance,

Taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the capacity, experience and coordination arrangements in the United Nations system for humanitarian assistance, 1/

1/ A/46/568.

1. Adopts the text contained in the annex to the present resolution for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

ANNEX

I. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Humanitarian assistance is of cardinal importance for the victims of natural disasters and other emergencies.

2. Humanitarian assistance must be provided in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality.

3. The sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity of States must be fully respected in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. In this context, humanitarian assistance should be provided with the consent of the affected country and in principle on the basis of an appeal by the affected country.

4. Each State has the responsibility first and foremost to take care of the victims of natural disasters and other emergencies occurring on its territory. Hence, the affected State has the primary role in the initiation, organization, coordination, and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory.

5. The magnitude and duration of many emergencies may be beyond the response capacity of many affected countries. International cooperation to address emergency situations and to strengthen the response capacity of affected countries is thus of great importance. Such cooperation should be provided in accordance with international law and national laws. Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations working impartially and with strictly humanitarian motives should continue to make a significant contribution in supplementing national efforts.

6. States whose populations are in need of humanitarian assistance are called upon to facilitate the work of these organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance, in particular the supply of food, medicines, shelter and health care, for which access to victims is essential.

7. States in proximity to emergencies are urged to participate closely with the affected countries in international efforts, with a view to facilitating, to the extent possible, the transit of humanitarian assistance.

8. Special attention should be given to disaster prevention and preparedness by the Governments concerned, as well as by the international community.

9. There is a clear relationship between emergency, rehabilitation and development. In order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance should be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development. Thus, emergency measures should be seen as a step towards long-term development.

10. Economic growth and sustainable development are essential for prevention of and preparedness against natural disasters and other emergencies. Many emergencies reflect the underlying crisis in development facing developing countries. Humanitarian assistance should therefore be accompanied by a renewal of commitment to economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries. In this context, adequate resources must be made available to address their development problems.

11. Contributions for humanitarian assistance should be provided in a way which is not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development.

12. The United Nations has a central and unique role to play in providing leadership and coordinating the efforts of the international community to support the affected countries. The United Nations should ensure the prompt and smooth delivery of relief assistance in full respect of the above-mentioned principles, bearing in mind also relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 2816 (XXVI) and 45/100. The United Nations system needs to be adapted and strengthened to meet present and future challenges in an effective and coherent manner. It should be provided with resources commensurate with future requirements. The inadequacy of such resources has been one of the major constraints in the effective response of the United Nations to emergencies.

II. PREVENTION

13. The international community should adequately assist developing countries in strengthening their capacity in disaster prevention and mitigation, both at the national and regional levels, for example, in establishing and enhancing integrated programmes in this regard.

14. In order to reduce the impact of disasters there should be increased awareness of the need for establishing disaster mitigation strategies, particularly in disaster-prone countries. There should be greater exchange and dissemination of existing and new technical information related to the assessment, prediction and mitigation of disasters. As called for in the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, efforts should be intensified to develop measures for prevention and mitigation of natural disasters and similar emergencies through programmes of technical assistance and modalities for favourable access to, and transfer of, relevant technology.

15. The disaster management training programme recently initiated by the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator and the United Nations Development Programme should be strengthened and broadened.

16. Organizations of the United Nations system involved in the funding and the provision of assistance relevant to the prevention of emergencies should be provided with sufficient and readily available resources.

17. The international community is urged to provide the necessary support and resources to programmes and activities undertaken to further the goals and objectives of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

III. PREPAREDNESS

18. International relief assistance should supplement national efforts to improve the capacities of developing countries to mitigate the effects of natural disasters expeditiously and effectively and to cope efficiently with all emergencies. The United Nations should enhance its efforts to assist developing countries to strengthen their capacity to respond to disasters, at the national and regional levels, as appropriate.

Early warning

19. On the basis of existing mandates and drawing upon monitoring arrangements available within the system, the United Nations should intensify efforts, building upon the existing capacities of relevant organizations and entities of the United Nations, for the systematic pooling, analysis and dissemination of early-warning information on natural disasters and other emergencies. In this context, the United Nations should consider making use as appropriate of the early-warning capacities of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

20. Early-warning information should be made available in an unrestricted and timely manner to all interested Governments and concerned authorities, in particular of affected or disaster-prone countries. The capacity of disaster-prone countries to receive, use and disseminate this information should be strengthened. In this connection, the international community is urged to assist these countries upon request with the establishment and enhancement of national early-warning systems.

IV. STAND-BY CAPACITY

(a) Contingency funding arrangements

21. Organizations and entities of the United Nations system should continue to respond to requests for emergency assistance within their respective mandates. Reserve and other contingency funding arrangements of these organizations and entities should be examined by their respective governing bodies to strengthen further their operational capacities for rapid and coordinated response to emergencies.

22. In addition, there is a need for a complementary central funding mechanism to ensure the provision of adequate resources for use in the initial phase of emergencies that require a system-wide response.

23. To that end, the Secretary-General should establish under his authority a central emergency revolving fund as a cash-flow mechanism to ensure the rapid and coordinated response of the organizations of the system.

24. This fund should be put into operation with an amount of 50 million United States dollars. The fund should be financed by voluntary contributions. Consultations among potential donors should be held to this end. To achieve this target, the Secretary-General should launch an appeal to potential donors and convene a meeting of those donors in the first quarter of 1992 to secure contributions to the fund on an assured, broad-based and additional basis.

25. Resources should be advanced to the operational organizations of the system on the understanding that they would reimburse the fund in the first instance from the voluntary contributions received in response to consolidated appeals.

26. The operation of the fund should be reviewed after two years.

(b) Additional measures for rapid response

27. The United Nations should, building upon the existing capacities of relevant organizations, establish a central register of all specialized personnel and teams of technical specialists, as well as relief supplies, equipment and services available within the United Nations system and from Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, that can be called upon at short notice by the United Nations.

28. The United Nations should continue to make appropriate arrangements with interested Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to enable it to have more expeditious access, when necessary, to their emergency relief capacities, including food reserves, emergency stockpiles and personnel, as well as logistic support. In the context of the annual report to the General Assembly mentioned in paragraph 35 (i) below, the Secretary-General is requested to report on progress in this regard.

29. Special emergency rules and procedures should be developed by the United Nations to enable all organizations to disburse quickly emergency funds, and to procure emergency supplies and equipment, as well as to recruit emergency staff.

30. Disaster-prone countries should develop special emergency procedures to expedite the rapid procurement and deployment of equipment and relief supplies.

V. CONSOLIDATED APPEALS

31. For emergencies requiring a coordinated response, the Secretary-General should ensure that an initial consolidated appeal covering all concerned organizations of the system, prepared in consultation with the affected State, is issued within the shortest possible time and in any event not longer than one week. In the case of prolonged emergencies, this initial appeal should be updated and elaborated within four weeks, as more information becomes available.

32. Potential donors should adopt necessary measures to increase and expedite their contributions, including setting aside, on a stand-by basis, financial and other resources that can be disbursed quickly to the United Nations system in response to the consolidated appeals of the Secretary-General.

VI. COORDINATION, COOPERATION AND LEADERSHIP

(a) Leadership of the Secretary-General

33. The leadership role of the Secretary-General is critical and must be strengthened to ensure better preparation for, as well as rapid and coherent response to, natural disasters and other emergencies. This should be achieved through coordinated support for prevention and preparedness measures and the optimal utilization of, inter alia, an inter-agency standing committee, consolidated appeals, a central emergency revolving fund and a register of stand-by capacities.

34. To this end, and on the understanding that the requisite resources envisaged in paragraph 24 above would be provided, a high-level official would be designated by the Secretary-General as emergency relief coordinator to work closely with the Secretary-General and having direct access to him, in cooperation with the relevant organizations and entities of the system dealing with humanitarian assistance and in full respect of their mandates, without prejudice to any decisions to be taken by the General Assembly on the overall restructuring of the Secretariat of the United Nations. This high-level official should combine the functions at present carried out in the coordination of United Nations response by representatives of the Secretary-General for major and complex emergencies, as well as by the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator.

35. Under the aegis of the General Assembly and working under the direction of the Secretary-General, the high-level official would have the following responsibilities:

(a) Processing requests from affected Member States for emergency assistance requiring a coordinated response;

(b) Maintaining an overview of all emergencies through, inter alia, the systematic pooling and analysis of early-warning information as envisaged in

paragraph 19 above, with a view to coordinating and facilitating the humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system to those emergencies that require a coordinated response;

(c) Organizing, in consultation with the Government of the affected country, a joint inter-agency needs-assessment mission and preparing a consolidated appeal to be issued by the Secretary-General, to be followed by periodic situation reports including information on all sources of external assistance;

(d) Actively facilitating, including through negotiation if needed, the access by the operational organizations to emergency areas for the rapid provision of emergency assistance by obtaining the consent of all parties concerned, through modalities such as the establishment of temporary relief corridors where needed, days and zones of tranquility and other forms;

(e) Managing, in consultation with the operational organizations concerned, the central emergency revolving fund and assisting in the mobilization of resources;

(f) Serving as a central focal point with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerning United Nations emergency relief operations and, when appropriate and necessary, mobilizing their emergency relief capacities, including through consultations in his capacity as Chairman of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

(g) Providing consolidated information, including early warning on emergencies, to all interested Governments and concerned authorities, particularly affected and disaster-prone countries, drawing on the capacities of the organizations of the system and other available sources;

(h) Actively promoting, in close collaboration with concerned organizations, the smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and reconstruction as relief operations under his aegis are phased out;

(i) Preparing an annual report for the Secretary-General on the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance, including information on the central emergency revolving fund, to be submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

36. The high-level official should be supported by a secretariat based on a strengthened Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator and the consolidation of existing offices that deal with complex emergencies. This secretariat could be supplemented by staff seconded from concerned organizations of the system. The high-level official should work closely with organizations and entities of the United Nations system, as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Organization for Migration and relevant non-governmental organizations. At the country level, the high-level official would maintain close contact with and provide leadership to the resident coordinators on matters relating to humanitarian assistance.

37. The Secretary-General should ensure that arrangements between the high-level official and all relevant organizations are set in place, establishing responsibilities for prompt and coordinated action in the event of emergency.

(b) Inter-Agency Standing Committee

38. An Inter-Agency Standing Committee serviced by a strengthened Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator should be established under the chairmanship of the high-level official with the participation of all operational organizations and with a standing invitation to the International Committee of the Red Cross, the League of the Red Cross Societies, and the International Organization for Migration. Relevant non-governmental organizations can be invited to participate on an ad hoc basis. The Committee should meet as soon as possible in response to emergencies.

(c) Country-level coordination

39. Within the overall framework described above and in support of the efforts of the affected countries, the resident coordinator should normally coordinate the humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system at the country level. He/She should facilitate the preparedness of the United Nations system and assist in a speedy transition from relief to development. He/She should promote the use of all locally or regionally available relief capacities. The resident coordinator should chair an emergency operations group of field representatives and experts from the system.

VII. CONTINUUM FROM RELIEF TO REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT

40. Emergency assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development. Development assistance organizations of the United Nations system should be involved at an early stage and should collaborate closely with those responsible for emergency relief and recovery, within their existing mandates.

41. International cooperation and support for rehabilitation and reconstruction should continue with sustained intensity after the initial relief stage. The rehabilitation phase should be used as an opportunity to restructure and improve facilities and services destroyed by emergencies in order to enable them to withstand the impact of future emergencies.

42. International cooperation should be accelerated for the development of developing countries, thereby contributing to reducing the occurrence and impact of future disasters and emergencies.

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STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Sweden: draft resolution

Corrigendum

Annex, paragraph 34

The first sentence should read

To this end, and on the understanding that the requisite resources envisaged in paragraph 24 above would be provided, a high-level official, emergency relief coordinator, would be designated by the Secretary-General to work closely with and with direct access to him, in cooperation with the relevant organizations and entities of the system dealing with humanitarian assistance and in full respect of their mandates, without prejudice to any decisions to be taken by the General Assembly on the overall restructuring of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

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CRITICAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IN AFRICA: FINAL REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR AFRICAN ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT 1986-1990

Norway: amendment to the draft resolution recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly on the Review and Appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 (A/46/41, para. 23)

After operative paragraph 2 add

3. Requests Governments, organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to take appropriate measures in order to implement the commitments contained in the New Agenda;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the New Agenda.

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